

Ophiogomphus howei (Pygmy Snaketail)

Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Insecta* (Insects)

Order: *Odonata* (Dragonflies And Damselflies)

Family: *Gomphidae* (Clubtails)

General comments:

Moderate vulnerability rank in Conservation Assessment by White et al 2014; 12-13 rivers in ME

Species Conservation Range Maps for Pygmy Snaketail:

Town Map: [Ophiogomphus howei_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Ophiogomphus howei_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:

Ophiogomphus howei is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority:

Northeast Odonate Conservation Assessment:

Vulnerability: Moderate, Responsibility: Significant

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:

Formation Name	Agricultural	
Macrogroup Name	Agricultural	
Habitat System Name:	Pasture-Hay	Notes: secondary (riparian only)
Formation Name	Boreal Upland Forest	
Macrogroup Name	Boreal Upland Forest	
Habitat System Name:	Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest	Notes: secondary (riparian only)
Habitat System Name:	Acadian Sub-boreal Spruce Flat	Notes: secondary (riparian only)
Formation Name	Freshwater Aquatic	
Macrogroup Name	Rivers and Streams	
Habitat System Name:	Large River	**Primary Habitat** Notes: rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands
Habitat System Name:	Medium River	**Primary Habitat** Notes: rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands
Habitat System Name:	Small River	Notes: rocky rivers with shallow riffles and mud bottom, usually in woodlands
Formation Name	Northeastern Upland Forest	
Macrogroup Name	Northern Hardwood & Conifer	
Habitat System Name:	Appalachian (Hemlock)-Northern Hardwood Forest	Notes: secondary (riparian only)
Habitat System Name:	Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwoods Forest	Notes: secondary (riparian only)
Habitat System Name:	Laurentian-Acadian Pine-Hemlock-Hardwood Forest	Notes: secondary (riparian only)

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Formation Name Northeastern Upland Forest

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*Habitat System Name: Northeastern Coastal and Interior Pine-Oak Forest **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Formation Name Northeastern Wetland Forest

Macrogroup Name Northeastern Floodplain Forest

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Floodplain Systems **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Macrogroup Name Northern Swamp

Habitat System Name: North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*Habitat System Name: North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*Habitat System Name: Northern Appalachian-Acadian Conifer-Hardwood Acidic Swamp **Notes:** *secondary (riparian only)*

Stressors Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability			
		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat Other Options

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Lack of knowledge

Severity: Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Lack of comprehensive survey effort to identify additional occurrences and determine species status

IUCN Level 1 Threat Biological Resource Use

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Logging and Wood Harvesting

Severity: Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Intensive forestry in the shoreland zone can affect water quality and riparian habitat

IUCN Level 1 Threat Residential and Commercial Development

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Housing and Urban Areas

Severity: Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat

IUCN Level 1 Threat Agriculture and Aquaculture

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops

Severity: Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat

IUCN Level 1 Threat Natural Systems Modifications

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Dams and Water Management-Use

Severity: Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** Dams degrade habitat quality for many lotic species specialists

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Pygmy Snaketail:

None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are*

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summarized here.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Riverine Odonates Guild:

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
Prepare a statewide atlas and conservation assessment.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.